



**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Administration for Children and Families**

**Proposed Information Collection Activity; National Survey  
of Child and Adolescent Well-Being-Third Cohort (NSCAW III)  
(Office of Management and Budget #0970-0202)**

**AGENCY:** Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation,  
Administration for Children and Families, United States  
Department of Health and Human Services.

**ACTION:** Request for public comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE) within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is proposing an extension with revisions to the data collection activities conducted as part of the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being (NSCAW III) (Office of Management and Budget #0970-0202). NSCAW is the only source of nationally representative, longitudinal, firsthand information about the functioning and well-being, service needs, and service utilization of children and families who come to the attention of the child welfare system. This request will allow additional time to conduct participant data collections. Minor changes to the instruments are requested to restore an in-person data collection option.

**DATES:** *Comments due within 60 days of publication.* In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction

Act of 1995, ACF is soliciting public comment on the specific aspects of the information collection described above.

**ADDRESSES:** You can obtain copies of the proposed collection of information and submit comments by emailing [OPREinfocollection@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:OPREinfocollection@acf.hhs.gov). Identify all requests by the title of the information collection.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Description:* NSCAW is the only source of nationally representative, longitudinal, firsthand information about the functioning and well-being, service needs, and service utilization of children and families who come to the attention of the child welfare system. The first and second cohorts of NSCAW were initiated in 1999 and 2008, respectively. A major objective for the third cohort of NSCAW (NSCAW III) is to maintain the strengths of previous work, while better positioning the study to address the changing child welfare population. Phase I of NSCAW III, approved November 2016, is complete and included recruitment and sampling process data collection activities. Phase II of NSCAW III, approved July 2017, includes baseline and follow-up data collection activities, and panel maintenance activities. Phase II follow-up data collection and panel maintenance is still ongoing. Phase III of NSCAW III, approved in September 2020, includes data collection on the child welfare workforce in of

participating agencies. Phase III data collection is complete, and analysis of the data is ongoing.

We seek approval for an extension with changes for the currently approved data collection activities, which includes follow-up data collection for Phase II and panel maintenance activities with NSCAW cohort members. As part of this request we are also proposing minor changes to the Phase II information collection. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, baseline Phase II in-person baseline data collection was paused for 14 months, and follow-up data collection was delayed due to the need to retool data collection procedures and instruments to allow for remote administration. This request is to extend the Phase II information collection and to update materials to restore the previously approved in-person mode as an option for caregiver and child respondents.

*Respondents:* Children and caregivers enrolled in NSCAW III and child welfare agency personnel in participating NSCAW III agencies. Surveys and panel maintenance responses may be obtained by telephone, web, or in person.

*Annual Burden Estimates*

Instrument	No. of Respondents (total over request period)	No. of Responses per Respondent (total over request period)	Avg. Burden per Response (in hours)	Total Burden (in hours)	Annual Burden (in hours)
Child Follow-up	387	1	.75	290	97
Caregiver Follow-up	409	1	.75	307	102

Caseworker Follow-up	126	3	1.0	379	126
Panel Maintenance with NSCAW Cohort Members	4,723	1	.08	378	126

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 451

*Comments:* The Department specifically requests comments on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted within 60 days of this publication.

**Authority:** 42 U.S.C. 628b; Continuing Appropriations Act of 2022.

**Mary B. Jones,**  
ACF/OPRE Certifying Officer.

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